

Dear Parents

Christmas Fundraising - Our nominated charities for Christmas 2022

We understand that some children and parents choose to give gifts to their teachers and teaching assistants at Christmas. This is really kind but not expected. As a staff, we would very much prefer to support those less fortunate than ourselves and we invite parents to consider donating to charity instead. This year, we are supporting two charities who are helping one of our pupils and his family.

Theo is being treated at Southampton Hospital and his parents have told me that they are receiving invaluable support from Wessex Children’s Cancer Unit and Clic Sargent.

Theo was recently able to come home for a few days. During this time he came into school with his mum and dad to visit his friends and teachers. It was so lovely to see him. We look forward to seeing him back at school as soon as he is able to.



To support these good causes, we will be having **‘Christmas Jumper Day’ on Friday 16th December** – children can wear a festive jumper and come to school in casual clothes that day.

Parents will be able to make a donation on ParentMail. Please check your emails for all of the details you need. Thank you for your support and generosity. It will mean so much to us all at school and to Theo and his family.

Please note: We have to set a maximum donation amount in the system. Please be reassured, you can part pay and make any smaller donation you choose.

Panto Pandemonium - Year 4

Congratulations to our Year 4 pupils and staff who did a fantastic job rehearsing, creating sets and performing Panto Pandemonium! We have had amazing feedback from parents and grandparents!

Thank you to all the families who were very generous with contributions to the retiring collection. We raised £296.25! The proceeds will be split between our two nominated charities - Piam Brown Ward at the Wessex Children's Cancer Unit and CLIC Sargent.

Poppy Appeal

We raised £17.43 for The Royal British Legion's Poppy Appeal - Thank you

Performances and Concerts

This year is the first year, since 2019, that we have been able to re-introduce many of our much loved Christmas celebrations, performances and concerts.

Year 4 worked hard to rehearse and perform their pantomime at the Barrington and EYFS are looking forward to sharing their special Christmas Nativity themed concert this week.

In addition, all children can participate in the Christmas Church Service and children in Y3 and Y4 join the choir tour, singing in care homes in the local area.

These events are our main focus in the Autumn term and we plan different opportunities for Y1, Y2 and Y3 across the academic year.

All year groups do have an opportunity to perform to their parents during the school year.

More information will be shared with you about these events in the new year.

EYFS Performances - Thursday 8th and Friday 9th December

Our EYFS pupils are busy rehearsing songs for their performances on the 8th and 9th December.

The performances start at 9.15am on each day and are expected to last around 45 minutes. Admission will be via the staff entrance from 9am.

Parents are asked to avoid bringing pushchairs into the school hall.

If you plan to attend, please ensure you have completed the Parent Mail form to order your free of charge tickets.

There will be a retiring collection in aid of our two nominated charities - Clic Sargent and Wessex Children's Cancer Unit.

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Look at Learning

We were delighted that our Look at Learning open afternoon was so well attended! It was lovely to welcome parents and grandparents back into school, especially as it has changed so much in recent months!



The children were so enthusiastic, showing their families around; we are grateful to all who attended.



Bedtime Story event

Thank you to all our staff and volunteer parents who made the Bedtime Story event such a success! The children had a great time listening to stories, making a Christmas decoration and they loved being in their PJs at school!

Changes to DTCA Wraparound Club on 9th December

Please be reminded that wraparound care will finish at **4.45pm** on Friday 9th December. If you need further information about this please contact Danny Thomas Coaching Academy.

Breakfast Club Consultation

At a recent Governors' meeting we discussed the increased demand there has been for Breakfast Club places since September. We want to support parents who need Breakfast Club but this must be within safe child to adult ratios.



To help Governors make decisions about permanently increasing capacity, further work needs to take place in the coming months to assess likely future demand on each day of the week.

A survey is now available to all parents in the Parent Mail app. Please fill this out this so we can build a complete picture of the needs of our parents.



Car Park - School Events

Parents will be attending some events in school over the coming weeks.

Please be aware that there will be no parking available in the school car park during the school day and there will only be limited accessible spaces for Blue Badge Holders. If you are a permit holder, a parking space is not guaranteed and cannot be reserved.

Parents are advised to leave plenty of time to park and walk from one of the local car parks at Tesco or the Leisure Centre. Please be respectful to our neighbours in Mountbatten Drive and Brabourne Avenue and avoid parking here if possible.

Thank you for your cooperation and understanding.

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*** CHRISTMAS EVENTS ***



Christmas Post

Year group Christmas Post Boxes are now open. If children would like to send Christmas Cards to their friends, please make sure envelopes include full name and class name if possible.

Christmas Lunch

Christmas lunch will be available on **Wednesday 14th December** and you must pre-order. Please check ParentMail for more details.

Main Course Menu

Turkey breast and chipolata sausage **OR** Vegetable Wellington
Served with: roast potatoes, peas, carrots, Brussels sprouts and gravy.

Pudding

Iced Christmas biscuit or fruit salad.

If your child has a special diet menu, we will contact you directly with separate menu options. Unfortunately jacket potatoes will not be available on this day and there will be no option to choose a meal on the day.



Choir on Tour - Monday 12th and Tuesday 13th



On Monday 12th December and Tuesday 13th December, children from the school choir will be taking part in a carol singing tour of a selection of Ferndown's nursing and care homes. The tour will also visit the Beacon Café at St Mary's Church.

A letter with more information and a consent form has been sent via Parent Mail for the children who have said they would like to take part. The choir has 80+ members. We will be splitting them into smaller groups to attend the different venues. Some children will go on Monday and some on Tuesday. Some may attend on both days.

Choir members will need to wear school uniform on Monday and Tuesday and they will need a packed lunch on both days please.

Choir will be travelling by coach on Monday. Please do not park in Mountbatten Drive on the approach to the school entrance as we need to ensure coach access. Thank You.

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Christmas Services - Wednesday 14th December

There will be two separate Christmas services on the morning of Wednesday 14th December.

The first service will be for EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 at 9.30am

The second service will be for Year 3 and Year 4 at 10.45am

We look forward to welcoming parents to these services. We'd appreciate some help walking the children from school to the church. Please speak with your child's teacher if you can help.

If you are planning to attend, please be aware there may be limited seating for adults in the congregation. You may have to stand at the sides. We ask all members of the congregation to wait until all children have been seated as we need to make sure the children are all in the right place first, please.



Early Collection Friday 16th December

On Friday 16th December parents will have the choice as to the time you collect your child from school. You can choose the early afternoon slot at 1.15pm or you can choose to collect at the end of the day at normal time. The form to complete for this is now available on Parent Mail.

Easyfundraising



Please help us to raise money for the school when making online purchases! The brand you are purchasing from donates the money so it doesn't cost you a penny!

Ferndown First School has a dedicated page. You can sign up and support this cause by clicking the link below:

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ferndown1st/?searchSessionId=36a76bba-a437-4adc-8758-0839d59218d3>

We greatly appreciate any help from parents.

Parental Controls - Online Safety

Please see the link below for useful information on privacy settings and parental controls on children's devices.

[Parental Controls & Privacy Settings Guides | Internet Matters](#)

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Accessibility Plan - Consultation

All schools must have an accessibility plan which clearly sets out how we intend to:

- Increase the extent to which disabled pupils can participate in the curriculum
- Improve the physical environment to enable disabled pupils to take better advantage of the education, benefits, facilities and services you provide
- Improve the availability of accessible information to disabled pupils

We are in the process of reviewing and revising our Accessibility Plan. If parents would like to contribute ideas for consideration, please contact Mrs Cload, SENCo by Friday 6th January 2023.

Supervision at the beginning and end of the day

Parents are responsible for ensuring children arrive at school safely. Our children are very young and we ask parents to accompany their children to school, supervising them on site until children enter their base, where staff are available and on duty. If your child attends Breakfast Club, parents should accompany children to the staff entrance door and wait with them until Breakfast Club opens.

Dorset Art Prize - Primary School Category - First Prize Winners



The Dorset Art Prize was established by the Bournemouth and Poole College in 2014, with the support of Dorset Community Foundation.

The key objective of the Prize is to actively engage with all aspects of the community through encouraging and helping to create a broader, more inclusive vision for art locally.

The 2022 Awards event was held at Upton House on Saturday 3rd December and Mr Watts was there to hear Ferndown First School announced as First Prize Winners in the primary school category.

Congratulations to all of the children whose art work was included in our nomination and special thanks to Miss Biles, who submitted our entry before she left Ferndown First School, last year.

The next school newsletter will be published in the New Year and I will be sending a final Headteacher's letter to you next week, before the Christmas holidays begin.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J M Di-Pede
Headteacher

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A&K ENTERTAINMENT PRESENT

KEY STEVENS A.K.A. **KRAZY KEV**
ENTERTAINER & LOCAL LEGEND
as Scarecrow

BRITAIN'S GOT TALENT AMANDA HOLDEN'S GOLDEN BUZZER ACT
SAMMY & HONEY
as Wicked Witch
as Glinda

PANTOMIME LEGEND
LUCY ROSE ROLLASON
as Dorothy

FROM **BBC** 'ALL TOGETHER NOW'
STEVEN VALLOP
as The Wizard

THE LOVEABLE
THEO BAZELEY-SMITH
as Lion

THE WIZARD OF OZ

**JOIN US OVER THE RAINBOW....
FOR A MAGICAL PANTOMIME FOR ALL THE FAMILY!**

WRITTEN BY: SEAN 'ROLLO' ROLLASON | DIRECTED BY: KEV STEVENS & LUCY ROSE ROLLASON

THURSDAY 15TH - SATURDAY 24TH DECEMBER 2022
BARRINGTON THEATRE, FERNDOWN BH22 9TH

www.BarringtonCentre.co.uk |   @BarringtonPanto | 

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